

HURRICANE UNIFIED COMMAND



LAFAYETTE PARISH

June 2006

COMPLETION REPORT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT A GLANCE

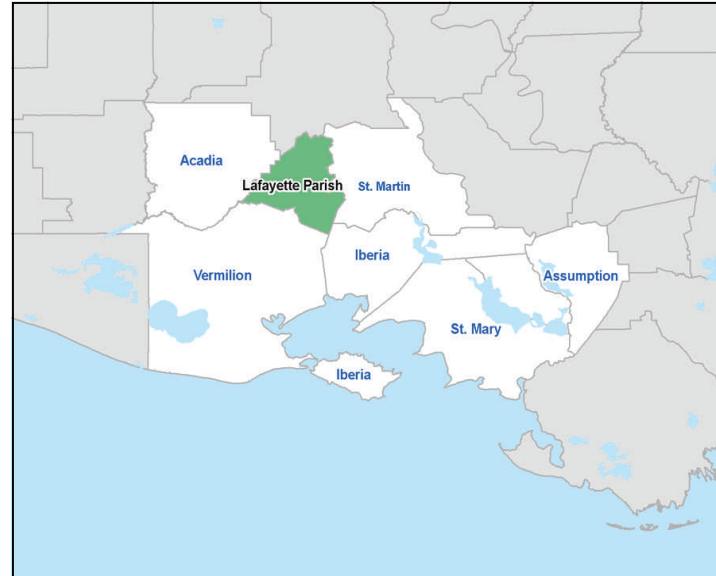
16	<i>Wastewater Facility Assessments</i>
54	<i>Industry Damage Assessments</i>
59	<i>School Lab Assessments</i>

Since September 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) have worked together to address environmental hazards from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to help Lafayette Parish recover.

One of EPA and LDEQ's first priorities was to ensure residents returning to all the cities affected by the hurricanes had safe water. In Lafayette Parish, 16 wastewater treatment plants were assessed for damage.

Next, EPA and LDEQ turned to hazardous waste storage, transfer or disposal facilities. Throughout southern Louisiana facilities were addressed, including 54 facilities in Lafayette Parish. The agencies conducted interviews and site visits to establish that employees could return to work at facilities operating in accordance with federal and state regulations.

Because of concerns that damaged chemicals in school biology and chemistry laboratories could cause a health hazard, EPA and LDEQ conducted assessments of 59 schools in Lafayette Parish.



Of the 59 schools assessed four were found to have laboratories. The four laboratories housed chemical containers that were found to be damaged by the hurricanes, flood waters and/or heat exposure. EPA and LDEQ, in coordination with the Louisiana State Police and local fire departments, removed dangerous chemicals from all four schools.



Above: EPA inspecting a school for chemicals affected by the hurricane.

Right: EPA conducting a facility damage assessment.

